

## SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

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Tuesday, July 5, 2016, 6:00 p.m, Old Schoolhouse Common

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Present: Selectboard members Chris Martin and Andy Perchlik; Town Clerk Bobbi Brimblecombe; School Board Chair Patrick Healy; Health Officer/Constable James Arisman; Conservation Commissioner Annie Reed; Road Foreman Dan Tetreault

At 6:00 p.m. the meeting was called to order by Chair Andy Perchlik

**Changes or additions to the agenda:** Stranahan Committee requests, log pile on Hollister Hill Road, Cemetery complaint

**Public Comment/Unscheduled Appearances:** Patrick Healy came to let people know that the school board is looking for people to serve on a 706B committee that will propose changes to school governance; the committee will include members from Twinfield, Danville and Cabot. The committee will look at various options for joining districts, and develop articles of agreement, to be voted on next spring. At this point it is not clear whether the vote would be on town meeting day or later, and whether Marshfield and Plainfield would vote individually or as a combined district. Anyone interested should contact Patrick.

**Review and Approval of Minutes:** The Board approved the minutes of the June 21, 2016 meeting.

**Appointment to the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission:** Chris moved to appoint Ivan Shadis as our representative. Andy seconded – all in favor.

**Beavers:** Annie Reed met with Tyler (the State's new furbearer project technician). His schedule is fairly open and he would be willing to work with us. Dan reported that the beavers have not been very active this year, perhaps because of the dry weather. He explained that there are grates on all of the culverts where the beavers have been a problem. He feels that the grates work pretty well but maybe the state's technician would have something to add. The beavers used to be a problem on Beaver Meadow Road but they have moved their dam to the middle of the pond so they aren't causing any problems now.

Annie confirmed that the Conservation Commission brought up the issue last fall because they would prefer that the beavers are dealt with in some way other than trapping or shooting them. Dan will get in touch with the furbearer technician and set up a meeting to look at various sites in town.

**Stranahan requests:** The Stranahan Committee asked to use money from the town highway budget to fix the culvert on the Thompson Road and do other work to repair beaver damage. Dan estimated about \$700 in materials. There is about \$2,700 in the Stranahan Fund but the committee doesn't want to use it. Andy feels that if the road is going to be gated, so it is not a road that cars are going to be allowed on, we shouldn't take it out of the town road budget. Annie questioned whether it should be changed from Class IV to legal trail; the Board will consider it. The Board decided to take the expenses out of the Stranahan Fund. Dan and Rich Phillips will decide whether to increase the size of the culvert that is needed.

Jim Brimblecombe asked (via Bobbi) that it be clarified that his sugaring contract is administered by the Selectboard, and he should communicate directly with the Selectboard regarding the sugaring. The Board agreed.

**Town garage – bids for furnace:** The Board received two bids, from Gillespie Fuels and from Heating and More. Andy noted that if the furnace efficiency is high enough, there is an incentive available from Efficiency Vermont. The Board will investigate higher efficiency models, and will research energy efficiency improvements that could be made to the garage to reduce the size of the furnace that is needed.

**Old Schoolhouse Common, Maintenance:** Dan Tetreault is willing to do the maintenance on the building but not the cleaning. The Board agreed to pay him the same hourly rate as Ernie. He will not have regular hours, but will be available as needed. The cleaning will continue to be done by Dun-rite custodial.

**Old Schoolhouse Common, Generator:** The Board approved the location of the emergency generator to be purchased with a hazard mitigation grant from FEMA. The grant has a 25% match.

**Old Schoolhouse Common, Gym:** Chris is still investigating options for soundproofing.

**Old Schoolhouse Common, Stove:** The Board discussed the options. They are considering selling the stove and buying something smaller. Andy will talk with Lawrence Black about the needs of the Community Suppers. In the meantime the kitchen will be secured and the pilots will be turned off.

**Trash/sanitary complaint – VT Route 232:** James Arisman updated the Selectboard on the status of the complaint. The landowners have been served a notice of the Town's intention to pursue a health order. The Board asked James to talk to the Town Attorney about enforcement options.

**Ambulance Service:** The Cabot Ambulance Service is down to six active members. They are trying to recruit new members.

**Log pile on Hollister Hill Road:** The Vermont State Housing Authority has asked the Zoning Administrator to do something about Norm Dix's log pile. They feel that it is a hazard. The Zoning Administrator has given the Selectboard the opinion that it is not a zoning violation because the operation predates zoning. The Selectboard does not feel that it is a town issue. They will suggest that VSHA should contact Norm directly.

**Cemetery complaint:** The Town received a report of flowers being removed from the cemetery. The Board wondered if they could have been eaten by an animal. The Sexton will be looking into it.

**Expenses, Permits & Payroll:** Selectboard members read and signed reports for General Expenses and Payroll.

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bobbi Brimblecombe, Town Clerk

The foregoing is a true copy of the Minutes of the July 5, 2016 Selectboard Meeting.  
A True Record. Attest, \_\_\_\_\_, Town Clerk

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